



NANTUCKET

Nantucket County



[NARRATIVE](#)
[GEOGRAPHY](#)
[GOVERNMENT](#)
[DEMOGRAPHICS](#)
[HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS](#)
[TRANSPORTATION](#)
[CULTURE AND RECREATION](#)
[MISCELLANEOUS](#)



NARRATIVE

Narrative

Nantucket is a 50-square mile island of incredible natural beauty and unspoiled historic charm, situated 30 miles out to sea south of Cape Cod. The charm of Nantucket is embodied in its well-preserved architecture and its protected moors, plains and beaches. For more than 150 years Nantucket served as the center of the world's whaling industry. In recognition of this heritage, the U.S. Department of the Interior designated the town a National Historic Landmark in 1966.

The Nantucket economy is based upon tourism and second-home development. Connected to Hyannis by two ferry services and several airlines, the island summer population peaks at approximately 40,000 in August. Residents and visitors alike enjoy Nantucket's many bike paths and beaches, as well as seasonal events including the Daffodil Weekend, Harborfest and the Cranberry Festival.

Nantucket's special environment is well-cared for by the efforts of several environmental and planning organizations, including the Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission, Nantucket Conservation Foundation (owner of 8200 acres of island open space) and the Nantucket Land Council. The Nantucket Land Bank was founded in 1984 as the nation's first local land trust; utilizing funding from a local real estate transaction fee, the Land Bank has purchased over 1000 acres of open space to date.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Nantucket is situated about 16 miles south of the Cape Cod shore line in the Atlantic Ocean. It is the largest island in the group that forms the county, at its greatest extremes running about 15 miles from east to west and 10 miles from north to south.

Total Area: 82.75 sq. miles

Land Area: 47.78 sq. miles

Population: 6,012

Density: 126 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Nantucket FAA Station)

Normal temperature in January.....31.3°F

Normal temperature in July.....68.3°F

Normal annual precipitation.....42.0"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Siasconset, Nantucket, Tuckernuck island, Great Point

Regional Planning Agency

Nantucket

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (508) 228-7217

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen
Executive Secretary
Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1671

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	4,355		
Democrats	1,039	23.9	%
Republicans	849	19.5	%
Other parties	1	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	2,466	56.6	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Nantucket town, Nantucket County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	9,520	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	9,520	100.0
Male.....	4,884	51.3	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	212	2.2
Female.....	4,636	48.7	Mexican.....	30	0.3
Under 5 years.....	525	5.5	Puerto Rican.....	24	0.3
5 to 9 years.....	511	5.4	Cuban.....	3	-
10 to 14 years.....	513	5.4	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	155	1.6
15 to 19 years.....	418	4.4	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	9,308	97.8
20 to 24 years.....	563	5.9	White alone.....	8,275	86.9
25 to 34 years.....	1,862	19.6	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	1,988	20.9	Total population.....	9,520	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	1,346	14.1	In households.....	8,760	92.0
55 to 59 years.....	446	4.7	Householder.....	3,699	38.9
60 to 64 years.....	348	3.7	Spouse.....	1,690	17.8
65 to 74 years.....	543	5.7	Child.....	2,091	22.0
75 to 84 years.....	344	3.6	Own child under 18 years.....	1,734	18.2
85 years and over.....	113	1.2	Other relatives.....	220	2.3
Median age (years).....	36.7	(X)	Under 18 years.....	49	0.5
18 years and over.....	7,692	80.8	Nonrelatives.....	1,060	11.1
Male.....	3,939	41.4	Unmarried partner.....	266	2.8
Female.....	3,753	39.4	In group quarters.....	760	8.0
21 years and over.....	7,465	78.4	Institutionalized population.....	43	0.5
62 years and over.....	1,199	12.6	Noninstitutionalized population.....	717	7.5
65 years and over.....	1,000	10.5	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	414	4.3	Total households.....	3,699	100.0
Female.....	586	6.2	Family households (families).....	2,106	56.9
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	994	26.9
One race.....	9,370	98.4	Married-couple family.....	1,690	45.7
White.....	8,363	87.8	With own children under 18 years.....	762	20.6
Black or African American.....	789	8.3	Female householder, no husband present.....	297	8.0
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	1	-	With own children under 18 years.....	178	4.8
Asian.....	61	0.6	Nonfamily households.....	1,593	43.1
Asian Indian.....	5	0.1	Householder living alone.....	1,104	29.8
Chinese.....	16	0.2	Householder 65 years and over.....	297	8.0
Filipino.....	13	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	1,045	28.3
Japanese.....	6	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	721	19.5
Korean.....	2	-	Average household size.....	2.37	(X)
Vietnamese.....	1	-	Average family size.....	2.90	(X)
Other Asian ¹	18	0.2	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	4	-	Total housing units.....	9,210	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	3	-	Occupied housing units.....	3,699	40.2
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	5,511	59.8
Samoa.....	1	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	5,170	56.1
Some other race.....	152	1.6	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	2.4	(X)
Two or more races.....	150	1.6	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	3.9	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races: ³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	3,699	100.0
White.....	8,464	88.9	Owner-occupied housing units.....	2,334	63.1
Black or African American.....	856	9.0	Renter-occupied housing units.....	1,365	36.9
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	25	0.3	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.51	(X)
Asian.....	86	0.9	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.13	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	11	0.1			
Some other race.....	240	2.5			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	22
Conventional Federal:	0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	0
Federal (Section 8):	0

FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Massachusetts Division of Employment and Training

DET publishes the state's monthly employment and unemployment report, analyzes the condition of the state's economy, examines economic trends, and formulates industry and occupational projections. All of these are essential to public and private sector economists, employers, and public officials who use the information to formulate policy, craft law, and make strategic decisions for the future.

Municipal Data Bank

Division of Local Services, Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

The Municipal Data Bank collects, analyzes and distributes financial, demographic and economic data on Massachusetts cities and towns. Financial data comes from a series of reports that municipalities submit annually to the Division of Local Services. Demographic and economic data is collected from other state and federal agencies. The Data Bank develops and maintains systems to collect and distribute the information, assists users in interpretation and use, participates in research projects with other agencies and organizations, and distributes reports which summarize data analyses

Division of Transitional Assistance

The Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA), formerly known as the Department of Public Welfare, is the state agency responsible for administering public assistance programs for needy citizens of the Commonwealth



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Nantucket is approximately 14 miles long, with an average width of 3 1/2 miles. Located about 25 miles south of Cape Cod, the island was named 'The Far Away Land' or Nanticut by Native Americans. Today excellent ferry and air service make Nantucket easily accessible from the mainland.

Major Highways

A network of state, county, and local roads connects the villages on the island.

Rail

There is no freight or passenger rail service on Nantucket.

Bus

There is no fixed route bus service on Nantucket.

Other

The Nantucket Memorial Airport, a Primary Commercial Service (PR) facility located 3 miles SE of town, is the second busiest passenger airport in Massachusetts. It has 3 asphalt runways 3,125'x 50'; 3,999'x 150'; and 6,303'x 150'. Instrument approaches available: Precision and non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Artists Association of Nantucket

Straight Wharf

(508) 228-0722

The Main Street Gallery, Nantucket

2 S. Water Street

(508) 228-2252

Nantucket Historical Association

5 Washington Street

(508) 228-1894

Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association

2 Vestal Street

(508) 228-9198

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

Nantucket Cottage Hospital

Long Term Care

Our Island Home

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Department of Housing and Community Development would like to thank the many government agencies noted as having provided information for the community profiles. In addition to these agencies, the Regional Transit Authorities assisted with the transportation component of the profiles. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of many city and town officials, which enabled us to include information obtainable only at the local level. DHCD would also like to thank the following individuals for providing special help: Leslie A. Kirwan, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Local Services, Department of Revenue; Richard Shibley, Deputy Secretary of State; Bob Beattie of the Department of Public Health; Charles W. Clifford from the Martha's Vineyard Commission; Dennis Coffey of the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction; Donna Fletcher and Christian Jacqz of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs; James Griffin from the MBTA; Karen Loh from Banker & Tradesman; Todd Maio from the Department of Welfare; Geoffrey Morton from the Election Division of the Secretary of State's Office; Stephen R. Muench of the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission; Rol Murrow of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; Mary Ann Neary and Emmanuelle Fletcher, reference librarians at the State House Library; Jeff Nellhaus from the Department of Education; and George Sanborn, reference librarian at the State Transportation Library.

NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.